

Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

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Submitted by: [REDACTED]
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Submitter Comments:

I would like the abolishment of travel expenses for the family members of recidivist offenders. Currently family members of recidivist offenders ie: the second or more incarceration in youth detention centres, are currently provided with free taxpayer-funded travel, accommodation and transport to visit their child in detention centres. The fact that these parents are responsible for their child and then that child breaks into people's houses and steals their cars, and then that child's family ie: parents and siblings, are given a free trip to visit them in detention each time the child gets locked up. A real life example is a family from Weipa consisting of two parents and five siblings, took a taxpayer-funded flight, accommodation and transport to visit their son in Cleveland Detention Centre. This family also managed to arrange their visit when the NQ Cowboys Rugby League team were playing a game at the local stadium, so this family could afford to buy seven football tickets but apparently had no money to visit their son in Cleveland. These taxpayer-funded visits need to be revoked as parents of recidivist offenders are not making any effort to ensure their children are behaving appropriately in the community. These parents should be paying for these visits themselves or using videolink to talk to their child. These repeat visits costs thousands of dollars of taxpayers money for a visit which only is allowed to go for one hour. It's a lot of money that should not be spent on the families of repeat offenders but in fact should be spent on the victims of their child's crimes.